

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action mailed on July 13, 2006 and a telephone interview with the Examiner on October 12, 2006. In the Office Action, claims 1, 3-4 and 9-14 were rejected. With this Amendment, claim 1 has been amended and the remaining claims are unchanged in the application. Claims 2, 5-8 and 14-20 were previously canceled. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims.

On page 2 of the Office Action, claims 1 and 3 were objected to because of informalities. In a previous Amendment filed on September 13, 2006, page 4 of the specification and FIG. 1 were amended based on suggestions, in the Office Action, to overcome this objection.

On page 3 of the Office Action, claims 1, 3-4, 9-10 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Lowery et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,250,973. Also, on page 5 of the Office Action, claims 11 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lowery et al.

During the telephone interview with the Examiner on October 12, 2006, the Examiner and the undersigned discussed amendments to claim 1, which would help overcome the cited art. One suggestion provided by the Examiner was to indicate, in claim 1, that the insulator is at least partially overmolded on the contacts. Applicant has amended claim 1 in accordance with this suggestion and believes that the amendment sufficiently clarifies differences between the claimed embodiments and the cited art. Therefore, all pending claims are believed to be allowable.

The Director is authorized to charge any fee deficiency required by this paper or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1123.

Respectfully submitted,

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